# Developing Green

The Costs and Benefits of Green Affordable Housing





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# Today's Presentation



- 1. Why Build Green
- 2. Best Practices
- 3. Emerging Trends

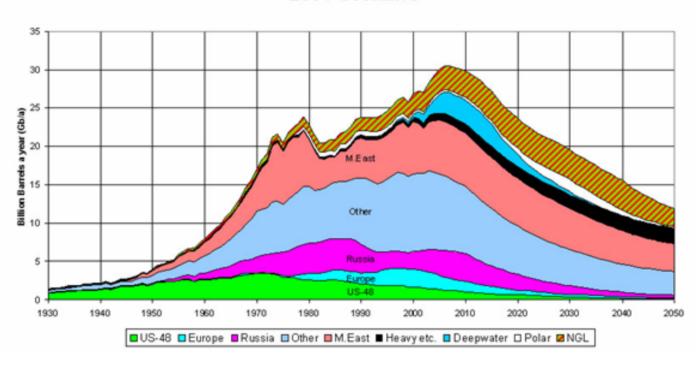




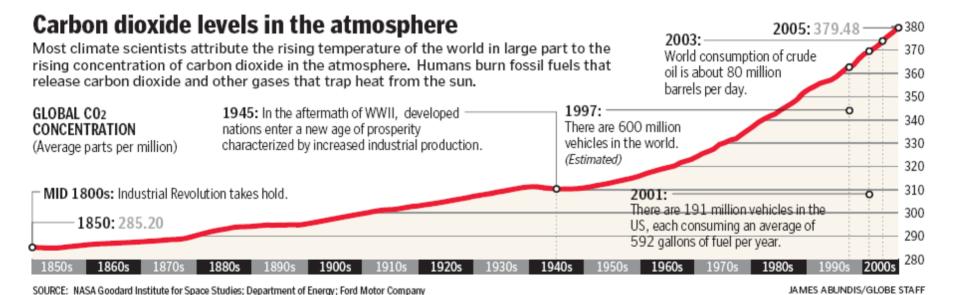




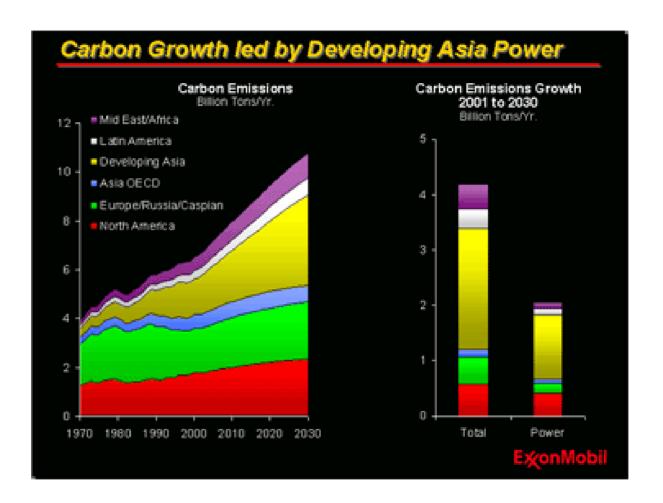
#### OIL AND GAS LIQUIDS 2004 Scenario



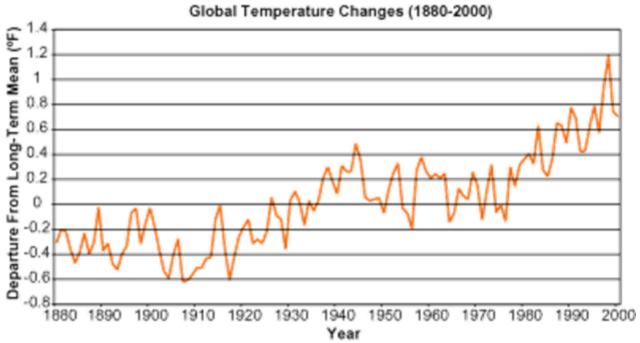






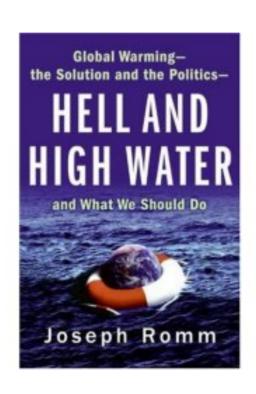














### Why We Should Demand Action Now

**Global Warming** 

**Deforestation** 

**Rapid Economic Expansion** 

**Fresh Water Shortages** 

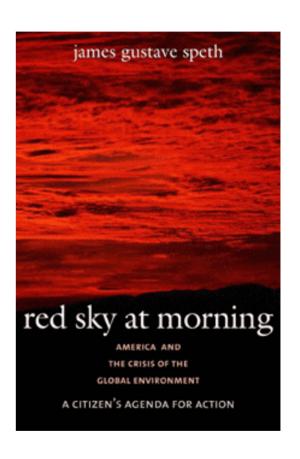
**Land/Agricultural Productivity Degredadation** 

**Energy Demand** 

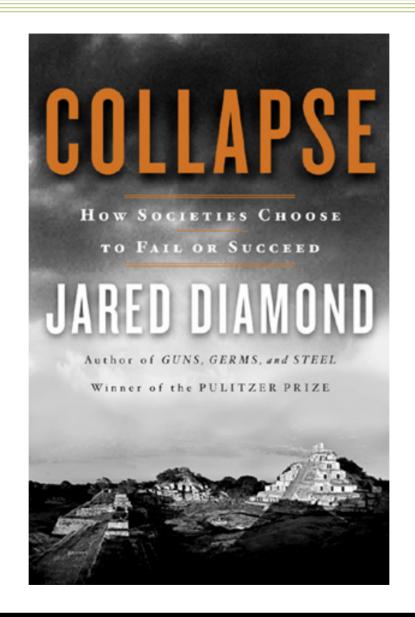
Ocean/Fisheries depletion

**Increasing Extinction** 

**Toxic Chemicals/Residue Buildup** 



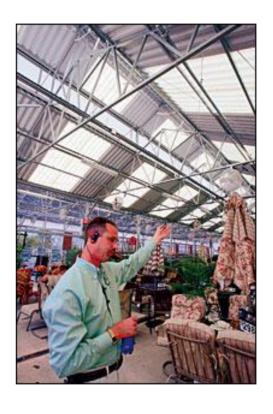


















The miracles of science-















#### INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE







Working Group III contribution to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Fourth Assessment Report

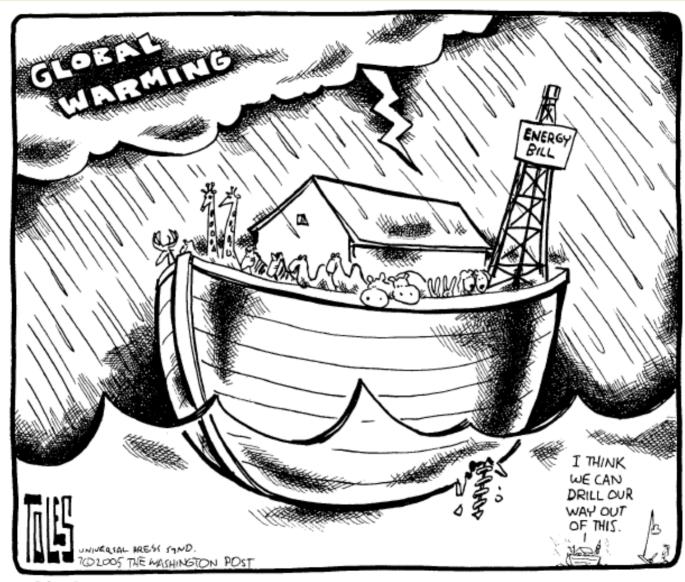
Climate Change 2007: Mitigation of Climate Change





Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
An Initiative of the Northeast & Mid-Atlantic States of the U.S.





7-31-05



# **Options:**

- 1. Business As Usual
- 2. Recognize The Trends and Turn the Ship





### **Environmental Impact of Buildings**





- > 36% of total U.S. primary energy use
- 30% of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions
- 136 million tons of construction and demolition waste in the U.S. (approx. 2.8 lbs/person/day)
- 12% of potable water in the U.S.
- 40% (3 billion tons annually) of raw materials use globally

Source: U.S. Green Building Council



# **Economic Impact of Underperforming Affordable Housing**



- Energy Budgets: 25% of operating budget and climbing
  - w/ annual 10% increases: >30% in 5 years
  - w/ annual 20% increases > 40% in 5 years
- Similar for water & sewer in high costs areas



# Costs and Benefits of Greening Affordable Housing Report

- Grew out of demand for more information on how green applies to affordable housing
- Seeks to answer, "Is it worth it?"
- Originally identified 59 developments
- 16 cases completed
- Developed NPV analysis for measuring value



# **Overall Approach**



- Compare life—cycle costs of actual green building developed versus hypothetical comparable conventional building
  - > Total development costs
  - Operating costs (utilities, maintenance)
  - Replacement costs
- Consider first costs and life-cycle costs
- Discounts future costs and savings to account for time value of money



# Life-Cycle Analysis



- Different perspectives in terms of who pays and who benefits (developers, residents, society)
- The benefits of greening accrue differently based on ownership structure





### **Conclusions and Results**



- There is a small increase in up front project costs due to building green
  - ➤ A mean of 2.42% and median of 2.94% green premium of *total development costs* across the case studies (w/o PV 1.73% mean; 2.72% med.)
  - ➤ Range of -18.33% to 9.09%





### Conclusions and Results



\$20.00 on line (a) www.newecology.org



Cost of Greening
(as % of total construction costs w/o PV)

Mean: 4.95%

Median: 3.83%

Range: -25% to 38.94%

(11 of 16 cases under 5%)



### **Conclusions and Results**



### What does the premium buy?

- Financial benefits—reduced costs and increased project value over 30 year life-cycle
- Non-quantifiable benefits



### **Residents Win!**



- Utility costs are usually lowered
- Replacement costs reduced
- Total occupant (renter/owner) life-cycle benefits:

Median: \$7,370 per unit

Mean: \$12,637 per unit





# **Developer's Perspective**



In and Out Developer usually does not benefit from any additional first costs.

#### Need:

- No increase in first cost
- Ability to pass on increases
- Creative Financing or Subsidy
- Long-term interest in the property







### Is there value in a rating?







# **Developers With Long Term Interest**



- Common area utility costs lower
- Replacement costs reduced
- Green subsidies available
- Project experience counts (many first timers in this study)



### **The Bottom Line**



- Residents/Homeowners win or draw in 15 of 16 cases (1 draw)
- Owners/Developers win or draw in 7 of 16 cases before subsidy (2 draws)
- Owners/Developers win or draw in 10 of 16 cases after subsidy (3 draws) Cost: .5 to 3%
- Projects win in 14 of 16 cases





#### It is cost effective to focus on:

Energy Efficiency





For 5% or less, we can make buildings that:

•Use 30-50% less energy than code buildings to heat and cool







For 5% or less, we can make buildings that:

Use 20% less electricity











#### It is cost effective to focus on:

Energy Efficiency

Water Efficiency





For 5% or less, we can make buildings that:

•Use 10-20% less water--saving \$ on water bills, sewer bills and DHW costs









#### It is cost effective to focus on:

Energy Efficiency

-Water Efficiency

Landscaping/Drainage



For 5% or less, we can make buildings that:

- Have landscapes that are easier to maintain and provide more amenities to occupants
- Infiltrate stormwater often reducing costs











#### It is cost effective to focus on:

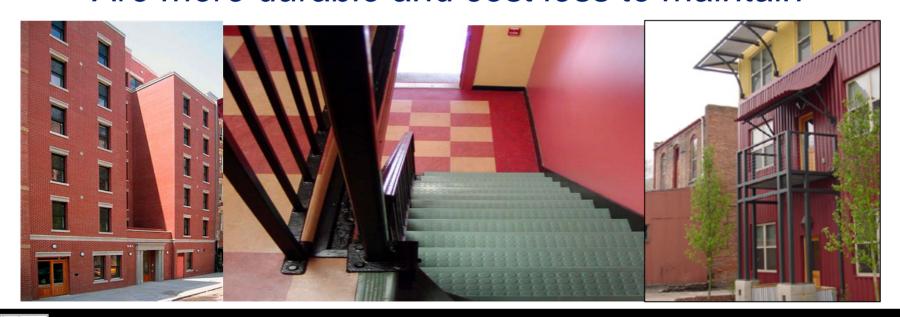
- Energy Efficiency
- -Water Efficiency
- Landscaping/Drainage
- Durability





For 5% or less, we can make buildings that:

Are more durable and cost less to maintain







#### It is cost effective to focus on:

- Energy Efficiency
- -Water Efficiency
- Landscaping/Drainage
- Durability
- Health





For 5% or less, we can make buildings that:

•Are healthier to live in—better IAQ, less use of toxics/pesticides, more comfortable, quieter









For 5% or less, we can make buildings that:

Recycle demolition and construction waste



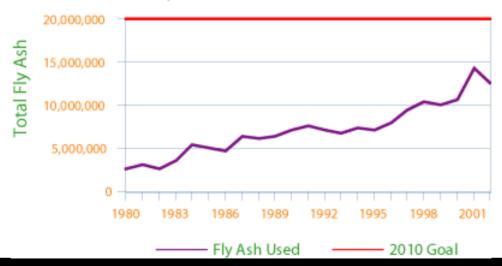




For 5% or less, we can make buildings that:

Use recycled materials in construction

Fly Ash Used in Concrete





#### Case Studies



### Single Family:

Arroyo Chico, Santa Fe, NM

Rural Development Inc, Turners Falls, MA

#### Multi Family:

Third Street, New York, NY

Linden Street, Somerville, MA



### Arroyo Chico Santa Fe, NM

#### **Project Information**

Number of Units 17
Unit Type Single-Family, Detached

Construction New

Target Occupant Low-Income, First-time Homebuyers

Developer Santa Fe Community Housing Trust

Development Consultant Guy Stanke

Contractor Sage Builders

Architect Suby Bowden

Total Square Footage 20,000

Total Development Cost \$2,337,477

Average Cost per Unit \$137,499

Average Cost per Foot \$116.87

Incremental Cost to Build Green 0.90%

Green Building Focus Material and Resource Efficiency

##F00

Average Price of House \$152,647

Charter Bank, New Mexico Mortgage Finance Authority, Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas





Financing Sources

#### Arroyo Chico, Cont.

Net cost of Greening: \$17,288

.74% TDC; .95% Const.

\$1017/unit

#### **Green Features:**

-Passive solar gain - Water harvesting system

-Xeriscaping - Cellulose blown insulation

-Low-e windows - Radiant floor heating

-Ceramic tile flooring - Metal roof

#### **Measurable Benefits:**

-energy efficiency, replacement costs

#### **NPV:**

Residents: +\$132,936, 5.08%; \$7820/unit;

**Developers: \$0 (passed on to buyers)** 



### Rural Development, Inc.

Turners Falls, MA





Five 3-4 BR Homes in five rural Ma towns:

TDC: \$842,956

Construction Cost: \$532,060

Green Premium: \$42,833

Total Sq Ft: 6363

Cost/Sq Ft: \$132

Affordability: 46-58% AMI



#### Rural Development Inc, Cont.

**Net cost of Greening:** 

\$42,833

-5.08% TDC; 8.1% Cons

-2.02% TDC; 3.2% Cons

#### **Green Features:**

- -Energy Star
- -Water Efficient
- -Low-e windows
- -Some PV



- Plywood Capinets
- High Efficiency boilers

#### **Measurable Benefits:**

- -energy efficiency-20-25% fuel cost reduction
- -1000 KwH energy plus RECs for 2 units with 1 KW solar



#### 228 and 299 Third Street

New York, NY



# Two Apartment Buildings: 22 and 38 Units

Cost: \$121 per square ft.

Green Premium: \$0





#### 228 and 299 Third Street, cont

Net Cost of Greening: \$0

#### **Green Features:**

- Energy efficient
- Innovative building envelope and wall structures, individual apt air sealing and ventilation, thermal mass inside insulation
- Structural durability, hardwood
- -Standard efficiency windows and boiler

Measurable Benefits: 15% of NYC avg energy use

3.5 btu/hdd/sqft



### Linden Street Apartments Somerville, MA

Project Information	
Name	Linden Street Apartments
Location	Somerville, MA
Number of Units	42
Unit Type	Multi-Family, attached
Construction	New
Target Occupant	Low-Income, including Section 8
Developer	Somerville Community Corporation
Development Consultant	Paula Herrington
Contractor	Landmark Structures Corporation
Architect	Mostue & Associates
Total Square Footage	50,970
Total Cost	\$10,013,785
Average Cost per Unit	\$238,423
Average Cost per Foot	\$196
Incremental Cost to Build Green	\$20,150
Green Building Focus	Material and Resource Efficiency
Financing Sources	Citizen's Bank - Boston Community Capital, Massachusetts Department of Housing and Commuinty Development, City of Somerville, Local Initiatives Support Corporation - National Equity Fund, Federal Home Loan Bank, Boston Community Loan Fund





#### Linden Street, Cont.

Net cost of Greening: \$20,150

.18% TDC; .30% Const.

\$479/unit

#### **Green Features:**

- Site Remediation

- Xeriscaping

- Rainwater recharge

- Low-e windows

- No VOC adhesives

- Bike racks

- Open space creation

- Community integration and access

- Low flow toilets

- Icynene and cellulose insulation

- Bathroom fans for increased air quality

- Tall windows for daylighting and safety

Measurable Benefits: energy + water efficiency, painting cost

**NPV:** Residents: +\$2,514,162; \$59,861/unit; developer \$286,920/337,320



# Linwood Court Cambridge, MA

### **Energy Assessment of Underperforming Asset**





# Linden Street Apartments and Linwood Court Building Energy Use (heating) Comparison



#### **Linwood Court – Conventional building**

- 6 units, 5,988 sq. ft.
- > 13.17 BTU/SF/HDD (Total of 439,863,000 BTU/YR)

#### **Linden Street – Green Buildings**

- > 6 units, 6,570 sq. ft.
- > 4.30 BTU/SF/HDD (Total of 158,070,000 BTU/YR)

The Green Building is using 33% of Energy for Heating!



# Linden Street Apartments and Linwood Court Building Energy Use (heating) Comparison



#### **Linwood Court – Conventional building**

- 4 units, 4,394 sq. ft.
- > 11.63 BTU/SF/HDD (Total of 285,150,000 BTU/YR)

#### **Linden Street – Green Buildings**

- > 3 units, 4,530 sq. ft.
- > 5.10 BTU/SF/HDD (Total of 129,470,000 BTU/YR)

The Green Building is using 44% of Energy for Heating!











# Why Are The Case Studies Successful?



- That was Their Goal
- (Not seeking certification)
- Integrated Design
- Talent and Dedication



# Why Are The Case Studies Successful?



- Developed a vision of the project that combines <u>programmatic</u> purpose, building <u>design</u> and building <u>performance.</u>
- Expect and demand green and other project goals



### Desire



All human actions have one or more of these seven causes: chance, nature, compulsions, habit, reason, passion, desire.

**Aristotle** 





Mitigate Risk of Rising Operating Costs

- Energy & Water
- Maintenance
- Turnover Expenses
- Owner Costs

Trade uncertain operating costs for fixed costs





### Mitigate Risk of Liability

#### What is the Next Lead Paint-type issue?

- •Asthma: increasing evidence that IAQ has a significant effect on attacks: Potential liability for not reducing triggers?
- Mold
- Pesticide exposure







# The "Resilience" of Housing





### Mitigate Risk of Cost Overruns

#### **Greening Helps Control Costs:**

- Green = Quality Construction/Quality Project
- Strategy for field verification, commissioning, tenant/management education
- Projects tend to be better planned and speced





## Community

- Better sense of community
- Pride of owning/living in a superior asset
- Compare commercial -- cannot quantify productivity, employee retention, sick days usage







- Market demand
- Profitability
- Pending regulation
- Cache
- Fundraising





The people we serve deserve this type of quality

Leaving the less well off behind







# If Greening is So Great, Why Isn't it Ubiquitous?



- Failure to "Think Green" Early
- ➤ Poor Team Selection
- ➤ Key Decisions Made <u>Before</u> Goals Set
- Lack of Integrated Design Approach





**Problem:** Failure to "Think Green" Early

<u>Solutions:</u> Develop a vision of the project that combines <u>programmatic</u> purpose, building <u>design</u> and building <u>performance.</u>

Expect and demand a green project that meets other goals





#### What to Demand:

- Density/TOD
- High levels of Energy and Water efficiency
- Stormwater control
- Low maintenance/high value landscaping
- Improved IAQ/Health
- Durability
- Materials
- Recycling







### WWW.GREENCOMMUNITIESONLINE.ORG



#### Problem:

Poor Team Selection

#### Solutions:

- Assemble a team that can form programmatic, design and performance visions into reality.
- Hire architect that is experienced in Integrated Design & eager to explore alternatives to the conventional
- Address payment issues early
- Participate in selection of architect's subs
- 5. Get help-green consultant





At this stage, do not need to understand subtleties of green building—just ask how those you hire will achieve improved performance, along with quality design and satisfying program needs





Who else can influence owner's early stage decisions?

- Financiers
- Local Governments-LEED, other requirements
- Architects-as a way to distinguish themselves
- Green Consultant





### <u>Problem:</u> Key Decisions Made <u>Before</u> Goals Set

- •Financing Applications; Permitting; Community Process
- Decisions Made: Density, orientation, height/size, construction techniques, parking, footprint

### **Solutions:**

- Hold a design charrette before even a schematic sketch is produced
- Set Design/Program/Performance goals early





Recognize and compensate for typical owner's first concerns:

- How will I pay for the project?
- Will it sell? Will I make a profit?
- Can I get it permitted? How fast?
- Fear of additional cost
- Burning cash, let's get started





**Problem:** Lack of Integrated Design

Solutions: You're on your way!



# Integrated Design-A Primer

- "Whole-building" systems-oriented approach to design
- Integrates the architecture with the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems to create synergies
- Brings together architects, engineers, others across disciplines and technologies from project initiation



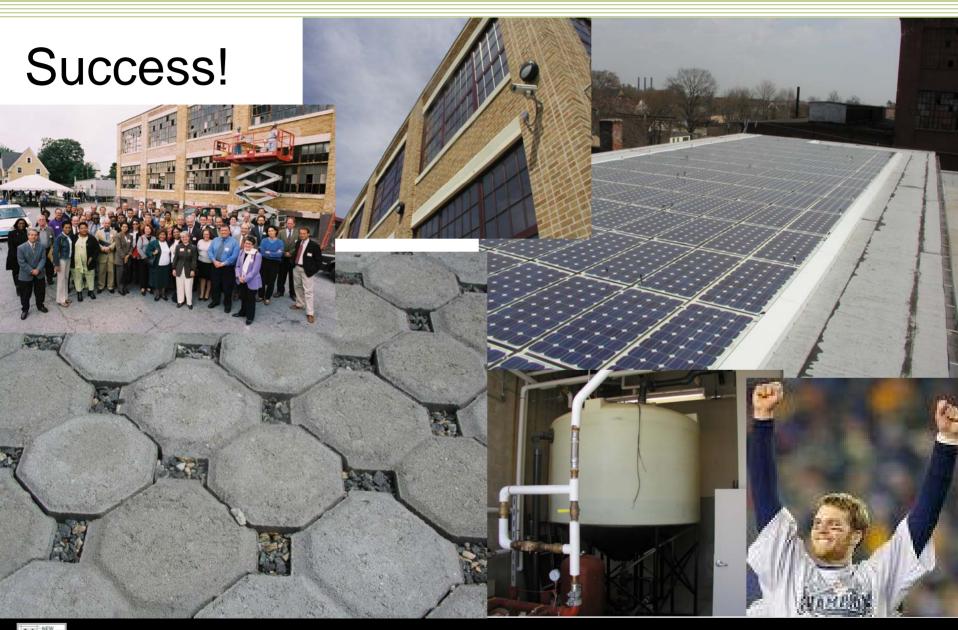
# Why Integrated Design is Better



- Works to meet project goals from the beginning
- Takes into consideration multiple solutions to design problems
- Reduces chances of costly change orders
- Can smooth permitting process







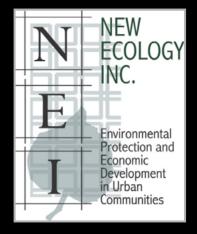


# The Costs and Benefits of Green Affordable Housing

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